



Minutes

Meeting of September 26, 2006

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Howard Welinsky, Chair
Olivia K. Singh, Vice Chair
Alan S. Arkatov
Joseph P. Bishop
Lance T. Izumi
Odessa P. Johnson
Hugo Morales
John P. Perez
Evonne Seron Schulze

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Irwin S. Field
Russell S. Gould
Melinda Guzman
Kenneth A. Noonan

CALL TO ORDER

Commission Chair Howard Welinsky called the September 26, 2006, meeting of the California Postsecondary Education Commission to order at 9:02 a.m. in the Commission Conference Room at 770 L Street, Suite 1160, Sacramento, California.

CALL OF THE ROLL

Executive Secretary Anna Gomez called the roll for the meeting and a quorum was present.

A COMMISSION RESOLUTION TO PROCEED WITH A UNIVERSITY ELIGIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CLASS OF 2007

Staff member Dr. Adrian Griffin introduced this item by discussing the background and process for conducting the Commission's periodic university eligibility studies. He noted the changes in eligibility requirements that have been made in the past few years that might result in changes in the

eligibility pools for the University of California and the California State University. He stated that a study should be conducted on the 2007 public high school graduates to determine how the changes might have affected the eligibility pools.

Although no definite commitment has been made by the segments to conduct such a study, he recommended that the Commission adopt a resolution to proceed with the eligibility study. Commissioners discussed the protocol for conducting the next study, emphasizing that the Commission should base it on a larger number of schools than was used in the previous study so as to ensure a smaller margin of error. The Commission voted to adopt the resolution.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the June 27-28, 2006, meeting were unanimously approved.

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Welinsky addressed the Commission by stating that he was completing three years as Chair and had reviewed many important reports over his seven years on the Commission. He commented on the Fiscal Profiles reports and contrasted the growth in corrections funding versus the reduction in higher education funding as noted in Displays 1 and 19 of the report.

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In fiscal year 1967-68, funding for Corrections was \$129 million, only about two-thirds of the funding for CSU (\$192 million). UC received \$243 million, almost twice as much as Corrections. Today, Corrections funding overshadows CSU funding with \$8.5 billion in general funds, three times the funding provided for CSU and 2.78 times the funding for UC.

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Organizational Changes: Director Haberman began his remarks by announcing the appointment of Peter McNamee as Assistant Director for Policy Development and Research for the agency. Mr. McNamee has 30 years of experience in state and local government, primarily in the areas of education and workforce development.

Student Interns: Director Haberman introduced the following graduate student assistants:

- Tarnjeet Kang, a graduate of UC Santa Cruz, who is working on the issues of college-going rates, the gender gap, and college affordability;
- Lingbo Liu, a graduate of Shanghai University of Engineering Science, who is working primarily on the issue of the nexus between higher education and the workforce; and
- Delanie Hopkins, a graduate of UC Santa Cruz, who is working on the federal ITQ program.

Recent Activities of the Director: Director Haberman reported on two conferences he had attended on behalf of the Commission: the Education Commission of the States, a national forum on educational policy; and the annual State Higher Education Executive Officers conference. He also reported on conferences attended by staff members Karen Humphrey and Sherri Orland.

Other Updates for the Commission: Director Haberman gave a brief summary of the staff work being done on UC Irvine's proposal for a law school; he stated that the proposal would be discussed at a future meeting. Mr. Greg Gollihur updated the Commission on the progress of the Commission's Affordability Panel and staff member Jessika Jones presented a review of her work on a prototype for examining accountability measures. Director Haberman concluded his report by commending the information technology staff for their fine work in upgrading and maintaining the internal CPEC network.

REPORT OF THE STATUTORY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Chair Robert Oakes reported on the September 15, 2006, meeting of the Statutory Advisory Committee. He began his presentation by announcing that the new chairman of the Statutory Advisory Committee will be Todd Greenspan and the new vice chairman will be Kyle Orr. Mr. Oakes continued his report by reminding the Commission that all items that are to be discussed at the Commission meeting should be agendaized, so that Statutory Advisory Committee members will be aware of them and can review them at the committee meeting prior to the Commission meeting.

Issues discussed at the statutory advisory committee meeting were:

- College-going rates – eligibility rates should be the focus, rather than simply college-going rates; the rates would be more accurate if private as well as public high school students were taken into consideration. To see how many Californians actually go to col-

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lege from high school would require looking at independent institutions, proprietary schools, and Californians going to college in other states;

- Gender gap issues – while the Commission should be aware of the gender gap in higher education, it should keep its focus on ethnicity gaps;
- Proposition 1D – the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006, a measure that has been endorsed by most of the state’s education governing boards; he recommended that the Commission endorse the proposal; and
- Segmental updates – Mr. Oakes reported on a number of appointments at the two public universities.

PROPOSED 2007 COMMISSION MEETING DATES

Chair Welinsky presented Commission meeting dates proposed for 2007:

March 20-21	Regular Commission Meeting, Sacramento
June 5-6	Regular Commission Meeting, Sacramento
September 25-26	Regular Commission Meeting, Sacramento
December 4-5	Regular Commission Meeting, Sacramento

The Commission adopted the proposed meeting dates.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, SEPTEMBER 2006

Staff counsel Sherri Orland reviewed the Commission’s higher education legislative agenda and provided a two-page update detailing updated changes in status of the bills.

HIGHER EDUCATION BUDGET UPDATE, 2006-07

Staff member Kevin Woolfork reported higher education highlights from the State Budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year, noting that the Budget:

- bought out anticipated fee increases for UC and CSU and funded a mid-year fee reduction for the community colleges;
- funded the projected levels of enrollment growth and provided base-budget increases to all three segments;
- included funding for community college equalization and the higher level of marginal cost funding for UC and CSU;
- included several Commission-supported financial aid elements, including an increase in the maximum Cal Grant award level (to \$9,708) for new recipients attending non-public institutions;
- funded the Community College Career Technical Education Initiative, to help develop connections between high school and community college coursework in selected career fields; and
- included \$26 million in state funding for UC and CSU student academic preparation and student support services programs.

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Mr. Woolfork then distributed information on Proposition 1D, the Kindergarten-University Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2006. This proposition would allow the state to sell \$10.4 billion of general obligation bonds for educational facilities. Of this total, \$7.3 billion is for K-12 school facilities and \$3.1 billion is for higher education facilities. The higher education portion would be split as follows: 48% for the community colleges, 28% for the California State University, and 24% for the University of California. Mr. Woolfork presented a resolution in strong support for Proposition 1D and the Commission adopted the resolution with the abstention of Commissioner Schulze.

COMBINING SOCIOECONOMIC DATA WITH THE COMMISSION'S LONGITUDINAL STUDENT DATA SYSTEM

Staff member Dr. Adrian Griffin began the presentation with a review and discussion of the Commission's prior work on enrollment and graduation rates, pointing out that ethnicity and gender have been the focus in past studies. Combining socioeconomic data with existing data would enable the Commission to examine the progress of students from lower-income backgrounds.

Unfortunately, a serious limitation of the longitudinal data system is that it doesn't contain any socioeconomic data on individual students, such as parental education or parental income. The system does, however, have data on the high school of each student. However, this data has been collected by many different colleges and universities and there may be different ways of handling and classifying the information. The first step will be to look at the data currently in the data base on high school of origin to see if it is complete and consistent enough to use in analyzing student progress based on a student's high school.

Graduate student Lingbo Liu presented slides showing an example of coverage of freshmen and juniors in the initial data, the percent of records that were available from the three public systems, and the limitations of the project.

COLLEGE-GOING RATES OF CALIFORNIA HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES: STATEWIDE AND LOCAL FIGURES

Staff member Dr. Adrian Griffin and graduate student Tarnjeet Kang introduced this item by presenting trends in college-going rates by ethnicity and gender. This represents data from the Commission student data system in a form that clearly shows highlights of recent trends in college going that may be of interest to the media and policy makers. Dr. Griffin pointed out that high school graduation rates follow the same pattern as the gender and ethnicity discrepancies that are found at the college level.

College-going rates by county were also included. Of the 15 largest counties, Santa Clara County sent the highest percentage of students to UC, Fresno County sent the highest percentage to the CSU, and Ventura County sent the highest percentage to the community colleges.

This working paper will be developed into a final report for the December Commission meeting.

THE GENDER GAP IN CALIFORNIA HIGHER EDUCATION: A FOLLOW-UP

Staff member Karen Humphrey introduced Tarnjeet Kang and Lois Kim, graduate students who have been assisting in developing this report. Ms. Humphrey began her presentation by noting that both national and state studies show that, although there is clear evidence of a gender gap in

higher education, the academic performance of both boys and girls has increased. She continued that the reports also emphasize that racial disparities in college opportunity and success tend to be greater than the gender differentials.

Ms. Humphrey pointed out that further research needs to be done on trends in K-12 education. Specifically for African American and Latino males, disparities begin in middle school or earlier. Workforce implications are also an important area to explore. However much more data collection and analysis are required to draw meaningful conclusions from which recommendations can be developed. Because of the agency's limited capacity, further study will require partnering with a foundation or research institution. Ms. Humphrey added that a number of research institutes and centers have indicated an interest in discussing a possible partnership.

FISCAL PROFILES, 2006-07

Staff member Kevin Woolfork began his presentation by thanking the University of California, the California State University, the Department of Finance, and the Department of Education for their invaluable cooperation in transmitting the data necessary to compile this report. The report contains statistical information and analyses of the financing of California postsecondary education from the 1965 fiscal year through 2005-06. Also included is information on the state's public elementary and secondary education financing. He reminded the Commission that this is an active and changing "draft" document, which will be updated in some areas before the end of the year.

Chair Welinsky thanked Mr. Woolfork for his dedication to the development of the report, and commented on how helpful it is in understanding longitudinal trends in funding, fees, and a number of other categories of higher education financing. The report was unanimously adopted.

RECESS

Chair Welinsky adjourned the meeting for lunch recess at 12:13 p.m.

RECONVENE

Chair Welinsky reconvened the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

THE IMPROVING TEACHER QUALITY (ITQ) STATE GRANTS PROGRAM: 2006 ACTIVITIES

Staff member Karen Humphrey presented this item as a status report on current projects in the Improving Teacher Quality (ITQ) State Grants Program. She discussed the two Master Grants for Retention of Science and Mathematics Teachers, each of which will receive \$5 million to support ten projects around the state. These projects reflect an effort to evaluate not only improvement in teacher practice and retention but evaluation of improvement in student achievement as well.

To help the projects in conducting high-quality research at the same time they are implementing professional development activities, the Commission will convene a research symposium early next year. The purpose of the symposium will be to bring together professional development practitioners with researchers and policymakers to consider the practical realities of evaluating and learning from professional development activities.

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Ms. Humphrey concluded with a PowerPoint presentation demonstrating the academic literacy professional development project activities (ITQ-01 grants funded in 2004) that she observed in classrooms this summer.

Chair Welinsky thanked Ms. Humphrey for her work in administering the federal ITQ program.

THE NEXUS BETWEEN POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: STATUS REPORT FOR SECOND POLICY BRIEF

Staff member Karen Humphrey and graduate student Tamar Foster began their presentation by reviewing earlier policy work on the connection between California's workforce development and higher education. The second policy brief, to be presented at the December Commission meeting, will focus on what is happening in California's workforce as it relates to higher education. The report will discuss workforce trends and changes, skills employers need and the skill shortages they see in the state's workforce, training in the workforce, the state's dynamic growth, and national and international workforce trends.

Staff will primarily rely on the 2004-2014 projects from the Employment Development Department's Labor Market Information Division for the data analysis. To inform their work, staff will conduct interviews with leaders in key industries to discuss how they think higher education can better prepare the state's current and future workforce. Staff also plans to review current reports on the national workforce to assess how California contributes to and compares with national trends.

Staff reiterated that this is a very complex topic and that there are a number of issues beyond the scope of this analysis, including the impact of K-12 education, the changing nature of the workforce, and the impact of a number of social issues.

PRESENTATION: MARILYN MCGRATH, UPDATE ON THE CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON TEACHER CREDENTIALING (CTC)

Ms. McGrath addressed the Commission about the difficult environment under which the CTC has operated for the past year. She distributed information on the new seven-year schedule for accreditation and commented on improvement in the operations of the agency. Ms. McGrath added that a new interim director, Dale Janssen, had been appointed, and communications have improved, the budget was favorable and the future of the Commission on Teacher Credentialing looked positive.

Chair Welinsky thanked Ms. McGrath for her service representing the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Welinsky adjourned the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

